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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/766,255	01/28/2004	Lan-Kun Don	LELI 3508	2953

321 7590 10/28/2005
SENNIGER POWERS
ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE
16TH FLOOR
ST LOUIS, MO 63102

EXAMINER

LUGO, CARLOS

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3676

DATE MAILED: 10/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/766,255

Applicant(s)

DON, LAN-KUN

Examiner

Carlos Lugo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-8 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to applicant's election filed on August 19, 2005.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of Species #2, Figure 5, drawn to claims 9-14 in the reply filed on August 19, 2005 is acknowledged.

Claim Objections

3. **Claims 9-12 are objected** to because of the following informalities:
 - Claim 9 Line 11, change "for allowing the at least one reinforcing post" to -for allowing at least one reinforcing post-.
 - Claim 9 Line 13, change "at least one reinforcing post having" to -the at least one reinforcing post having-.
 - Claim 9 Line 14, change "having at least one engaging slit" to -having a pair of engaging slits-.
 - Claim 9 Line 20, change "the stationary post" to -at least one stationary post-.
 - Claim 9 Line 26, change "at least one second bolt" to -at least one bolt-.
 - Claim 10 Line 2, change "wherein the one end portion of the at least one reinforcing post has" to -wherein the pair of reinforcing slits is composed of a-.
 - Claim 11, rewrite it to -The post-removable construction of a door lock device according to claim 10, wherein the at least one stationary post is formed on the body of the positioning plate-.
 - Claim 12 Line 2, change "wherein each of the reinforcing posts" to -wherein the at least one reinforcing post-.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

- The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. **Claims 9-14 are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 9 recites the limitation "at least one reinforcing post having two end portions with one end portion thereof having at least one engaging slit for engaging the engaging edge of the recess of the positioning plate and the engaging edge of the recess of the outer seat" in lines 13-17. It is unclear how at least one slit can engage both surfaces, the edges of the recess of the positioning plate and the edges of the recess of the outer seat. According to the current specification, paragraph 37, the reinforcing post 735' have two slits 736' and 739' so one of the slit engage the edges of the recess of the positioning plate and the other the edges of the recess of the outer seat. Therefore, in order to continue with the examination, the limitation will be considered as at least one reinforcing post having two end portions with one end portion thereof having a pair of engaging slits for engaging the engaging edge of the recess of the positioning plate and the engaging edge of the recess of the outer seat respectively. Appropriate correction is required (see claim objections above).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. **Claim 9 would be allowable** if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action. Claims 10-14 would also be allowed because the claims depend from claim 9.

Reasons For Allowance

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 9 is allowable over the prior art of record, after making the respective corrections, because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that the reinforcing posts has a pair of engaging slits that engage the edges of the apertures at the positioning plate and the outer seat.

Fann (US 5,385,374) discloses a construction of a door lock device comprising an outer housing (cover) having a body with a through hole and a positioning plate (1) having a body with a through hole that is disposed on the outer housing. Fann also discloses that device further comprises at least one reinforcing post (11) and at least one stationary post (21).

Kim (US 5,265,924) teaches that it is well known in the art of latches and locks to have an outer seat (4) that has at least one recess that receive the reinforcing posts (6).

Wilson (US 3,228,218) and Shen (US 6,893,059) teach that it is well known in the art of latches and locks to have the reinforcing posts with slits.

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However, Fann, as combined by Kim, Wilson and Shen, fails to disclose that the reinforcing posts has a pair of engaging slits that engage the edges of the apertures at the positioning plate and the outer seat. Wilson and Shen only disclose one slit that engages with a positioning plate.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Lugo whose telephone number 571-272-7058. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5771.

C.L.

Carlos Lugo
AU 3676


BRIAN E. GLESSNER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

October 18, 2005.